

## RD Duties, from DCMYC Handbook

The primary responsibility of the Race Director (RD) is to assure that all performance sailboat racing is conducted in accordance with the Sailing Instructions presented in the DCMYC Handbook. The RD shall have access to a paper or pdf copy of Part 2 of the current Racing Rules of Sailing at the sailing site.

Specific duties and responsibilities for the RD include the following:

- 4.4.1 If racing marks need to be set for the event, the RD should arrive at the sailing location at **least one (1) hour** before scheduled start time to set up the course and equipment. If racing marks have already been set, the **RD should arrive at least 30 minutes** before scheduled start time. The Regatta Captain may or may not be present to assist.
- 4.4.2 The RD shall assemble all skippers for a pre-race briefing **five (5) to ten (10)** minutes prior to start time. The briefing will describe the course to be sailed, appropriate mark rounding directions, number of laps, location of start and finish lines, whether any marks can be touched without penalty, control area, rules needing emphasis, and any other items the RD feels important.
- 4.4.3 The RD will act as official starter to include starting the audible countdown and observing the start line, calling the sail number of any boat starting early, and verifying correct restarts as necessary. The RD will recall and restart the entire fleet if unable to identify early starters.
- 4.4.4 The RD shall act as racing judge during sailing, including the pre-start period of the heat. The **RD shall accompany and observe** the main flock of boats and judge mark rounding, call sail numbers of boats contacting or missing marks, and verify penalty turns or re-roundings as necessary.

The RD shall insure that those skippers who have finished have also cleared the finish line and **remain on the non-course side of the finish line**.

- 4.4.5 The RD cannot call a protest but may act as a neutral observer in disputes between skippers, and verify completion of penalty turns. If a protest cannot be settled during sailing, the RD shall, immediately following the heat in question, settle the dispute, to include adjusting the scoring as necessary. The RD may seek assistance to review and resolve the dispute.

The scoring sheet should remain at the finish line. If an uncontested win is expected, an early finisher will act as score keeper until the RD is free of other judging duties. The RD may disqualify a skipper for an entire race for repetitive rule violations, non-conformance to a class rule or Rule 2 violation (fair sailing).

The RD may cancel or terminate a race only in the event of lightning or other occurrences that may affect the physical safety of the participating skippers. The RD decisions are indisputable and final and may be overruled by a club officer only for reasons of Safety.

- 4.5.2 Incentive. Should six or more skippers (including the RD) be present at race start time, the designated **RD shall NOT sail** and will perform all RD duties. This non-sailing RD, as an incentive to perform the duties, shall be awarded a race score of two (2) points for that race date for annual award purposes. Thus there will be two second place finishes for that days' race. Note: The non-sailing RD incentive score is limited to two times per year for each class sailed.
- 4.5.3 Should four or five skippers (including RD) be present at start time, the **RD is not required to sail**. If RD does sail, they receive only their earned score for the day. If the RD does not sail, they may elect to

receive no points or points for Did Not Start. If the number of skippers increases to more than five after the first heat, the RD may elect to serve as a non-sailing RD, and be eligible for the incentive score of section 4.5.2.

4.5.4 Should the RD plus only two skippers be present for an event, the **RD must sail**, and shall receive only their earned score for the day.

5.4.0 **General**. A heat is a “race” from start line to finish line. A Race consists of **three or more heats with three or more boats starting each heat**, conducted on a single day or consecutive days. A series is a long term group of races covering a predetermined time, for example a year.

5.6.1.2 A minimum of 3 boats of the same DCMYC-approved class must begin the first heat in order for the heat to be scored. Racing will be canceled for the day if the boat minimum is not met **within 30 minutes**. A Race consists of three or more heats with three or more boats starting each heat, conducted on a single day or consecutive days.

5.4.3 **Breaking Ties**. Ties for a heat shall be broken per RRS Rule **A7**. Ties for a race, event or season standings shall be broken per RRS Rule **A8**. When breaking ties in season standings, rule A9 shall not apply, and rule **A8.2** shall consider only those events when all who are tied were competing.

**Comment:** RSS A7 requires that two or more boats who tie for a finish position on a heat be awarded their share of the proportion of their score. If two boats are tied for 2<sup>nd</sup>, then both boats get 2.5 points (2 + 3 = 5, then divide by 2 = 2.5), and the next finisher would be awarded 4<sup>th</sup> place. If three boats tied for second, 2+3+4 = 9, all three boats get scored as 3rd, the next finisher would be awarded 5<sup>th</sup> place, and so on. Our Saturday events fall under the “Series” rules, since they are a collection of individual heats, thus A8.1 and A8.2 apply to Saturday events as well as our season standings.

## **Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2013-2016, with italics and emphasis added:**

### **A7 RACE TIES**

If boats are tied at the finishing line or if a handicap or rating system is used and boats have equal corrected times, the points for the *place for which the boats have tied and for the place(s) immediately below shall be added together and divided equally*. Boats tied for a race prize shall share it or be given equal prizes.

### **A8 SERIES TIES**

**A8.1** If there is a series-score tie between two or more boats, each boat’s race scores shall be listed in order of best to worst, and at the first point(s) where there is a difference the tie shall be broken in favor of the boat(s) with the best score(s). *No excluded scores shall be used.*

**A8.2** If a tie remains between two or more boats, they shall be ranked in order of their scores in the last race. Any remaining ties shall be broken by using the tied boats’ scores in the next-to-last race and so on until all ties are broken. *These scores shall be used even if some of them are excluded scores.*

[Local modification, from DCMYC Handbook 5.4.3: When breaking ties in season standings, rule A9 shall not apply, and rule **A8.2** shall consider **only those events when all who are tied were competing.**]

## Appendix E, Radio Sailing Racing Rules, **E1.2 Terminology**

(c) In the racing rules, but not in its appendices, **replace the noun "race" with "heat"**. In Appendix E a race consists of one or more heats and is completed when the last heat in the race is completed.